

Application No. Not Yet Assigned

Customer No. 01933

Attorney Docket No.04123/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Shigeaki YAMANAKA et al.

Serial No. : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : Concurrently Herewith

For : HOLLOW STEPPED SHAFT AND  
METHOD OF FORMING THE SAME

Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

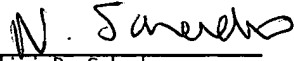
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

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Nalini P. Sahadeo

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Please Amend the present application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are set forth in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Claims 1-14 are amended and claims 15-19 are added.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.